

Columbia Missourian

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Good Morning! It's Friday, May 20, 1977

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Nixon defends 'peace paranoia'

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Richard Nixon said Thursday he had the legal right as president to crush antiwar dissent by any means short of murder. He added in his own defense "Paranoia for peace isn't that bad."

Admitting he sometimes felt "paranoid" hatred for his political enemies, Nixon defended as the prerogative of a virtually sovereign president schemes to harass dissenters through burglaries, wiretaps, mail openings and use of the IRS.

"When the president does it, that means it is not illegal," he told David Frost in the third of their five televised interviews.

President Carter quickly issued a statement disavowing Nixon's in-

terpretation of presidential powers, calling it "tragic."

Quoting Lincoln and Jefferson in defense of his theory — and accusing the Kennedys of acting much the same as he did — Nixon said, "In wartime, a president does have certain extraordinary powers, which would make acts that would otherwise be unlawful, lawful if undertaken for the purpose of preserving the nation and the Constitution."

Nixon asserted the shield of presidential power also should protect from prosecution those who carry out crimes in defense of "national security," although many of his subordinates were in fact convicted for a "White House plumbers'" burglary

or for perpetration and cover-up of what Nixon called "that pipsqueak Watergate."

Where do we draw the line? Frost asked. "Why shouldn't the same presidential power apply to somebody who the president feels in the national interest should murder a dissenter?"

Nixon insisted murder would be over "the dividing line," saying, "There are degrees, there are nuances which are difficult to explain."

He described himself as a temperamental man.

"Am I paranoid about hating people and trying to do them in?" he asked.

And the answer is "At times, yes I get angry at people, but in human terms as far as I'm concerned, I believe that an

individual must never let hatred rule him."

Nixon said he and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger were driven to distraction by the antiwar protests of the late 1960s and early 1970 and recalled that Kissinger flew into a rage when someone leaked the news of the secret U.S. bombing raids over Cambodia.

Henry said (of the leakers) "I will destroy them."

As Nixon explained it the main justification for his attempts to build up a "White House enemies" list infiltrate and harass political opposition groups and set the plumbers off on their operations was the need to stifle an antiwar dissent before it wrecked his attempts to negotiate a Vietnam peace

He insisted the demonstrators and those who leaked the Pentagon Papers and other classified war information stiffened the resistance of the North Vietnamese and led them to play for time at the bargaining table."

Referring to the operation in which the plumbers' burglarized Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office, Nixon insisted he did not know of that plan in advance but seemed to make clear he approves of it in retrospect.

He called Daniel Ellsberg the former Pentagon employee who leaked the Pentagon Papers to the press a punk.

"I couldn't care less about the punk," he said. "I wanted to discredit that kind of activity which was despicable and damaging the national interest."

In town today

8:30 a.m. Conference of Municipal and Magistrate Judges Association of Missouri, Tate Hall, University

8:50 a.m. Bio-Sci Symposium, Memorial Union Auditorium, University.

7:30 p.m. Slide program presented by the Mid-Missouri Railfans Club, Guitar Street Community Center

Exhibits

See Sunday's Vibrations magazine for continuing exhibit schedules

Movie listings on pages 14-15

City boosts Columbia businesses

Loop plan gets mixed reviews

By Geoff Cross
Missourian staff writer

Although the attitude of Columbia city government toward local business is positive, its decisions are more help to some and hindrance to others say several local businessmen.

Columbia's mayor, businessman Les Proctor (vice president of the Commerce Bank of Columbia), depicts a "positive and progressive" council stance toward local business. Proctor sees the current city council improving an already healthy business climate in two ways. Making the town more attractive to small and medium-sized firms and encouraging them to locate in Columbia, drawing more building within the city limits by centralizing permit and inspection checkpoints, thereby eliminating much discouraging red tape.

Proctor and First Ward Councilman

Insight

Pat Barnes also feel the creation of the downtown traffic loop will be at worst harmless to downtown business and at best an indirect catalyst.

The loop has become a bone of contention among local businessmen. Some merchants feel, along with City Council, that the implementation will at least not hurt businesses inside the four-square-block area. Others are not so confident.

Al Price, board chairman of the Boone County National Bank, 720 E. Broadway, sees the loop as advantageous.

"The downtown core is what makes a city a city. Without it there is no cohesiveness. The loop will eliminate the heavy through traffic in the downtown area, which makes parking difficult. I believe the loop will strengthen the downtown core, bringing more people down here."

Doug Carr, manager of Best Tapes and Records, 25 S. Ninth St., looks forward to the loop's implementation.

"I think the downtown traffic loop will bring in more business. Most of our customers are walkers because there isn't much parking in front of the store. A little less than half of our customers are college students, the rest come from Columbia and surrounding towns. We don't anticipate losing any business."

"The effect of the traffic loop will be beneficial from the start, even while people are adapting, because it will provide increased parking. This is one of two areas where shopping centers

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Four hurt in wreck

Brad Stubbs, 23, of 310 Manor Drive, nurses a cut eye after a three-car accident Thursday morning at Stadium Boulevard and Providence Road. Four persons were injured when an eastbound car driven by Nellie Copeland, 70, Huntsville, entered the intersection and struck one driven by Edward Stubbs, 25, who was southbound on Providence. Stubbs' car was pushed into one driven by James L. Brown, 30, of 2600 Fair Haven Drive. Mrs. Copeland's car continued through the intersection and struck a concrete post. Edward and Brad Stubbs were treated at Boone County Hospital and released. Shirley Copeland, 43, and Nellie Copeland were taken to the University Medical Center. Shirley was treated and released and Nellie is in serious condition. Nellie Copeland was summoned for failing to stop at a red light.

D. Brent Simcock

Measles at 'epidemic' stage here

By Frank Bridgewater
Missourian staff writer

"We're having an epidemic of measles," Columbia Health Director Mike Sanford said Thursday.

He said the number of confirmed cases has grown to 28, an increase of seven from the day before, and there are "another half-dozen or 10 we suspect."

Because an epidemic has been declared, school children who have not been immunized may be suspended, according to Lynn Marine, director of

elementary education and administration in charge of the health division for Columbia Public Schools.

Asked if some youngsters might be suspended before this school session ends June 2, Marine replied, "They might be. We'll just have to follow the law on that thing."

But he added, "We haven't set any specific date on this."

"As long as an epidemic has been declared," he said, "then we are asked (by the Missouri Division of Health) to suspend children that have not been adequately immunized until the

epidemic has been declared over."

Marine said he has not thought about what effect the epidemic might have on summer school programs. But he said "there is a possibility they would be affected by it."

If the epidemic is not declared to be ended by the start of school next fall, Marine said he hopes to say children who are not immunized will not be allowed to attend class. But no decision for fall has been made, and Marine said he would have to check any such rule with the school attorney.

According to Marine, the Missouri

Division of Health requires pupils to be immunized against childhood diseases or have exemption slips signed by a physician or the child's parents declaring it would be against their religious belief.

But Marine said, "As long as there is an epidemic declared, they (children) have to be suspended."

By definition, Sanford said, an epidemic condition exists whenever the incidence of a given disease rises above what you would normally expect — what has historically occurred."

The health department's im-

munization drive, which began Wednesday continued Thursday at five more city schools and in Harrisburg. The program will continue through next Wednesday at 10 more city and Boone County schools.

Those between the ages of 5 and 19 who have not been immunized at school should contact private physicians, Sanford said.

If that is not possible, he said, they can be immunized during the week at a clinic at the University Medical Center. Persons wishing to use this service should call for an appointment.

Blue laws repeal possible in K.C.

JEFFERSON CITY (AP) — Kansas City area residents could repeal the state's ban on Sunday sales for their area under a bill approved by the Missouri Senate Thursday.

The Senate's action on the bill, which already has gained approval in the House, all but insures the measure will be sent to the desk of Gov. Joseph Teasdale this legislative session. It also marks the first time in recent history that even a local-option repeal of the so-called "Blue Law" has been endorsed by the State Senate.

"It's an historic occasion for the people of the State of Missouri," said Rep. Phillip Scaglia, D-Kansas City. Scaglia has been at the forefront of Blue Law repeal movements during the past five years.

Missouri has been without a ban on Sunday sales for only two of the last 154 years. In 1962, the Missouri Supreme Court declared the law "unnecessarily vague" and struck it down. But two years later, the General Assembly enacted a new Blue Law.

Under the proposal passed Thursday, residents of Clay, Jackson and Platte counties will have an opportunity to repeal the ban, which proponents say

has sent thousands of Missourians to Kansas shopping centers on Sundays. Backers have said millions of dollars in sales tax revenue that could have been collected in Missouri have been lost.

Senators endorsed the local option repeal bill on a 20-12 vote after rejecting an attempt by Sen. Harold Caskey, D-Butler, to include Cass County — which lies directly south of Jackson County — among those to be allowed local-option repeal.

Because of a slight technical change in the bill made by the Senate, the measure will be sent back to the House, where it passed 96 to 54 when considered there.

Under current law, stores in the state are allowed to sell on Sunday only those items designated by statute as "necessities."

Backers of repeal have complained that the necessities listed by statute do not include baby bottles, for example, but do include ammunition.

Some have opposed opening stores on Fridays for religious reasons, while others, including retail clerks' unions, have objected to the sales because it forces certain persons to work on Sundays.

'Big Bird' to return in summer

By Steve Perkins
Missourian staff writer

Big Bird and the Cookie Monster will be back in Columbia this summer, thanks to KOMU-TV (Channel 8).

"Sesame Street" will be shown at 9 a.m. weekdays beginning Monday and ending in August. Emmitt Klinkerman, University business officer, said Citizens for Sesame Street was instrumental in the decision to televise the program.

Klinkerman said KOMU will pay \$3,000 a month to show "Sesame Street." Since the hour-long show for pre-school children does not allow commercials, the money for the show will come from KOMU's general fund, Klinkerman said.

KROG-TV (Channel 13) in Jefferson City said it could not afford to show "Sesame Street" because the program did not generate revenue and other funds were not available. The station recently removed the show from its schedule.

Petition was not valid

Zoning ruling reversed

By Karl Polzer
Missourian staff writer

A rural Columbia man learned Wednesday that a petition he had submitted to the County Court to block the rezoning of land near his home was invalid.

Hugo Vianello, Route 1, submitted the petition to prevent land on a pig farm near his home from being rezoned from agricultural to residential status.

The land is owned by Carol and James Hoffmann, 919 Canterbury Court. The Hoffmanns had asked for the rezoning of 95 acres (38 hectares) off U.S. 63 about seven miles (11.2 kilometers) south of Columbia.

The County Court voted 2-1 March 3 in

favor of rezoning, but the measure did not pass because a unanimous vote was believed to be necessary.

Prosecuting Attorney Milt Harper said Thursday that Vianello's petition was not valid because the signatures were not properly notarized. Since the petition was not valid, a unanimous vote was not necessary, Harper said in a letter to Presiding Judge William Frech.

Harper instructed the County Court to change its minutes to uphold the March 3 vote in favor of rezoning the Hoffmanns' property.

Vianello said his wife witnessed six persons signing the petition. He said a notary public "witnessed the signature

of my wife who testified that the signatures were valid." Harper wrote Frech that this was not proper "acknowledgment" that the signatures were valid.

Frech, who voted against the rezoning, said the Hoffmann property will now be rezoned unless the case is brought to circuit court by Vianello.

Vianello said he would not take the case to the circuit court. "It's not within my province to take this to court," Vianello said. "It's within the province of the County Court."

Vianello said he still thinks the petition is valid. "What is the criterion for getting a petition signed?" he asked.

This means that all petitions that have

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Lies at trial bring 2-year sentence

A Hallsville man, sentenced to a six-month jail term in 1976 for leaving the scene of an automobile accident, now must serve a two-year penitentiary term for false statements he made during his trial.

Ron Hague, 22, was sentenced Monday by Boone County Circuit Judge John M. Cave, who said the perjury offense "strikes at the very heart of the

judicial system."

It is Boone County's first perjury conviction in at least six years, David Strauss, the assistant prosecuting attorney who handled the case, said Thursday.

Hague was charged with perjury after he admitted during a 1976 probation hearing to giving false testimony at his trial. Charged with leaving the scene of a 1975 accident, he had testified

at his trial that he did not operate a car nor was he in an auto accident.

A jury found him guilty and sentenced him to six months in jail. Later he said his testimony was false.

He pleaded guilty to perjury April 28. His attorney has filed a motion seeking probation for Hague. Cave stayed execution of the sentence until Tuesday.